



News Release

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

'Welcome Home' celebration planned for Madison's 232nd Personnel Services Company

Twelve months after they shipped out to Southwest Asia, 40 soldiers from the Wisconsin Army National Guard's 232nd Personnel Services Company will be back in Madison this week.

Lt. Gov. Barbara Lawton will lead a "welcome home" celebration for unit members and their families Tuesday morning [Feb. 1]. Also participating will be senior National Guard commanders, including Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening, the adjutant general of Wisconsin, and Brig. Gen. Kerry Denson, commander of the Wisconsin Army Guard's 7,700 soldiers. In addition, many of the unit's fellow soldiers and airmen from the Wisconsin National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Madison will be on hand to join the welcome home celebration.

The welcome home celebration will be held at Wisconsin National Guard state headquarters building at 2400 Wright Street beginning at 11:00 a.m. Entertainment will be provided by the National Guard's 132nd Army Band of Madison.

The 232nd Personnel Services Company was mobilized Dec. 7, 2003, and deployed to Southwest Asia in early February 2004. The unit's soldiers returned to Volk Field last week Thursday and are now completing their demobilization processing at Fort McCoy. They are expected to be released from active duty immediately following the welcome home celebration.

During their tour of duty the 232nd Personnel Services Company supported Operation Iraqi Freedom from Kuwait and Qatar, where they processed thousands of Army personnel records for soldiers moving into and out of Iraq, and also supported the Army's Rest and Recuperation program in Qatar.

With the return of the Madison-based personnel unit, the Wisconsin Guard still has approximately 1,700 soldiers and airmen on active duty. Of those, about 1,330 are currently deployed overseas.

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